

# A Liturgy of the Eucharist for Easter Day



All Saints Church, Birkenhead



## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

*The service begins in darkness. When the bell rings the congregation turn to face the Paschal procession at the doors of the church.*

*The Priest begins the service by saying:*

Christ yesterday and today,  
Alpha and Omega,  
**The beginning and the end,**

All time belongs to him,  
and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,  
through every age and forever. Amen**

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done, we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death and live with him forever.

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy day  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light,  
set us ablaze with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

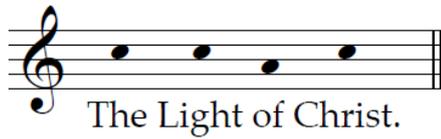
**Amen**

*The paschal candle is lit*

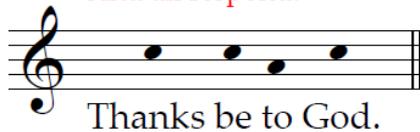
May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*Lit Candles are handed out to the congregation.*

*When the congregation has received their candles, the minister carrying the Paschal Candle raises it and sings three times:  
(congregation repeat tune exactly)*



And all respond:



*The procession moves to the sanctuary, pausing twice as the versicle and response are repeated. After the paschal candle is placed in its holder, the presiding priest says/sings:*

Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!  
Around God's throne exult in harmony!  
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!  
Salute your King in glorious symphony!

Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!  
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!  
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!  
The night is past, the day of life is here!

Sing, Church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!  
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!  
Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!  
Let all God's people sound the long Amen!

Christ is risen  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia** x3

*The lights in the church are switched on and the altar candles are lit as we  
sing our **Opening Hymn***

*At the end of the hymn, the congregation extinguish their candles.*

Let us be still in the presence of the Risen Christ.

*Silence is kept.*

We respond to God's resurrection and love by praying/singing...

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated  
at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you  
alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Let us pray that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory.

*We turn to our service sheet for the **Collect***

*Please sit*

## THE READINGS

*After each reading the response is*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God**

*We stand for the Gospel reading*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

**Alleluia.**

He has defeated the powers of death.

**Alleluia.**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

**Alleluia.**

He has the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to...

**✠ Praise and Glory to God**

*After the Gospel, the reader says*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ the Word**

## THE SERMON

*Following The Sermon we keep silence*

## THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced evil, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

*We stand together to respond in these affirmations.*

Praise to God who has given us life.

**Blessed be God for the gift of love.**

Praise to God who forgives our sin.

**Blessed be God who sets us free.**

Praise to God who kindles our faith.

**Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.**

*The priest says*

Let us, the baptized, affirm that we renounce evil  
and commit our lives to Christ.

**Blessed be God**

**JESUS IS LORD!**

*The priest says*

Let us all gathered in this place declare before God the faith which we share  
and to which we have been baptized.

Do you believe and trust in God the Creator, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in God.**

Do you believe and trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ, who redeems humankind?

**We believe and trust in Jesus Christ.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who sustains the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.**

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Creating, Redeeming, Sustaining.**

**Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The priest says:*

Let us pray for the needs of the world and for our life together, giving thanks for God's goodness.

*We sit or kneel for the **Prayers & Intercessions***

## THE PEACE

*We stand together*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said:  
'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**and also with you. Alleluia.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words:*

**Christ is risen!**

## THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*We sing a **Hymn** as the bread & wine and the gifts of the people are  
brought to the altar*

Lord of life,  
with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.  
As we are fed with the bread of heaven  
may we know your resurrection power;  
through Christ our risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here

**God's Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to offer thanks and praise**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and on this morning of our redemption  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing forever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Please sit or kneel*

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before  
he died your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given  
you thanks, he broke it,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;  
when he had given you thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new  
covenant which is shed for you and for many for the  
forgiveness of sins;  
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me:

Glory to you, Lord Christ;  
your death we show forth;  
your resurrection we proclaim;  
your coming we await,  
Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

Therefore loving God,  
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,  
his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension,

and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate our redemption with this  
bread of life and this cup of salvation.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which we  
offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body  
and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,  
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we  
worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

**✠ Blessing, honour and glory be yours,  
here and everywhere,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray/sing:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen**

*Silence is kept*

*The priest breaks the bread*

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live forever.  
Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.

*We say/sing together...*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us your peace

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*All are welcome to receive communion if it is not your preference or your  
custom to receive Communion you are welcome to come forward for a  
blessing.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ you are risen from the dead.  
You are light in our darkness,  
warmth in our cold.  
May our life never deny your eternal life,  
this peace and hope and joy.  
May the new covenant sealed by your love  
bring healing and reconciliation  
to this wounded world.

**Alleluia. You are risen. We are risen with you.  
Praise and glory to the living God. Amen**

*A Final Hymn may be sung*

*A ✠ Blessing is given...*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*We are sent out with these words*

**A**s we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*You are warmly invited to share Morning Tea in the Hall following the 9.30am service*